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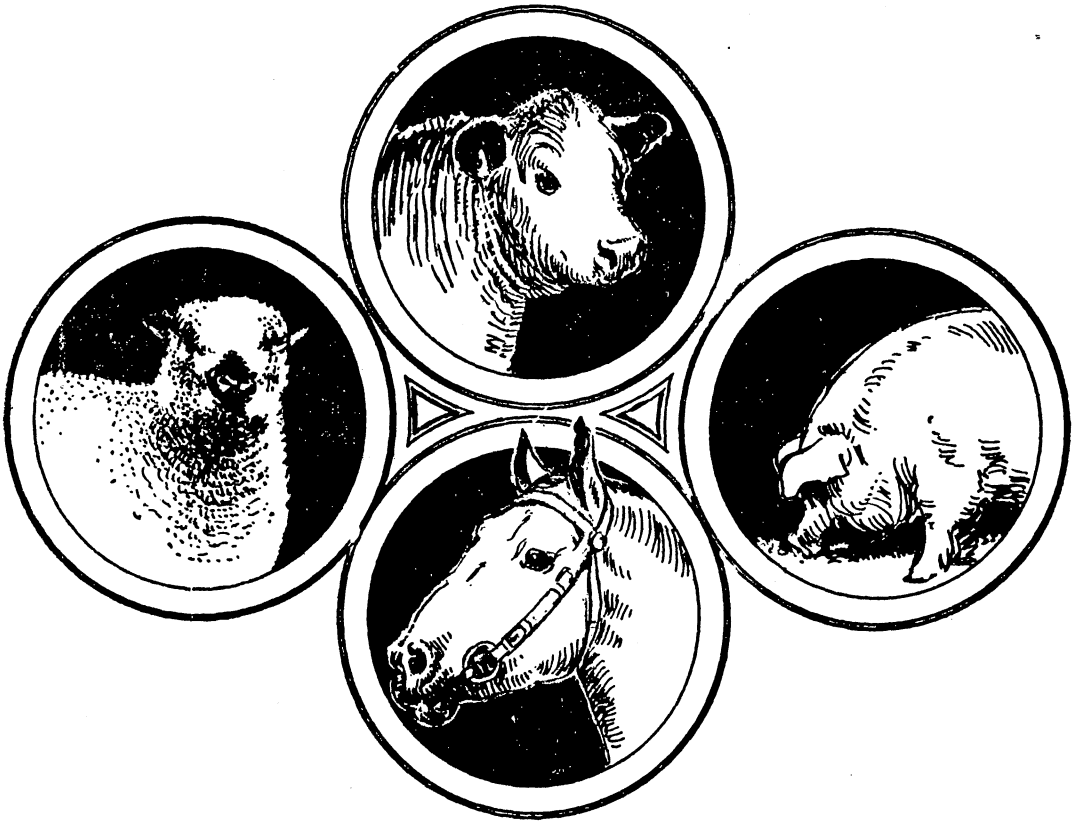
The EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON,
D.C.

Serial No. 15 September, 1929.

The difference between getting by

and getting ahead in any undertaking

often lies in our understanding or

failing to understand the people to

whom we want our work or our words to

appeal. -- Dr. Glenn Frank.

All communications regarding this publication, which is issued quarterly, should be addressed to:

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Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C.

THE EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN

Issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry and the
Office of Cooperative Extension Work, Cooperating.

Serial Number 15 -- -- September, 1929.

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MISSOURI'S RECORD IN THE MISSOURI-KANSAS BEEF-PRODUCTION CONTEST

by

H. M. Garlock, Missouri Extension Service

- - -

The Missouri and Kansas Beef-Production Contest which closed the first of February caused much favorable comment from cattlemen and directed a great amount of attention to the raising of beef cattle on Missouri farms. This contest was the outgrowth of a desire on the part of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce to cooperate in promoting projects that would improve the agriculture in its trade territory. The beef-herd demonstrations conducted in previous years had shown that beef cows could be maintained on Missouri farms for the calves they raise and at the same time provide a market for rough feeds and help in improving the fertility of the soil. Records from these demonstrations showed that in 1926 it cost $19.10 to maintain a cow a year, in 1927, $21.27, and in 1928, $19.51. Furthermore, the feeding of grain to suckling calves had increased the net value of the calves at weaning time $10.00 to $20.00 per head.

The present contest was outlined with the view of getting the practices adopted that had been demonstrated in the beef-herd project, namely, the using of beef cows to consume rough feeds and the feeding of suckling calves. The prize money was provided by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, the Kansas City Stockyards Company, and the beef breed associations. All prize money was to apply toward the purchase of registered beef bulls.

Awards were made on the basis of 50 per cent for average daily gain, 25 per cent for economy of gain, and 25 per cent for finish and quality as indicated by the dressing percentage shown by packing-house records.

Twenty-six entries were made from 15 counties. Twenty-three of the 26 contestants completed the project and furnished complete information on their feeding operations. A summary of the records shows that the entire lot of 410 calves averaged $84.94 each when sold off the cows.

Summary of Operations of Missouri Beef-Cattle Raisers Winning in the 1928 Contest

Name	C.C.Speck,	L.L.Woolery,	Brayton Bros.,	Ora Stout,	Montgomery & Son,
County	Grundy	Cass	Monroe	Putmam	Stoddard
Price	First	Second	Third	*Fifth	Sixth
Number calves..	23	70	25	14	12
Final weight (ave. lbs.) ..	696	677	668	530	643
Days fed	177	169	171	143	181
Ave. daily gain (lbs.)	2.80	2.53	2.43	2.06	2.18
Corn (bu.)	15.2	19.8	20.6	6.9	23.08
Oats (bu.)		2.85		3.5	3.66
Oil meal (lbs.)	13	27	60		
C.S.meal (lbs.)					96
Molasses feed (lbs.)	30	40	80		132
Hay (lbs.)		143	240		158
Feed cost per head	$14.36	$20.92	$25.04	$6.14	$26.71
Selling price per cwt.	15.25	15.50	15.50	14.75	16.75
Value per head.	98.97	98.89	95.63	77.45	107.70
Dressing per-centage	59.	57.9	60.	60.	60.2

*Fourth place was won by a Kansas contestant.

A study of the summary shows a good return for keeping the cow after the cost of grain is deducted from the selling price of the calves.

The contestants were used as demonstrators, meetings were held at the farm when the calves were about ready for market, and a study was made of the entire operation.

Four of the five winners from the State bought registered bulls last spring and the fifth will buy a bull in the next spring sale. The bulls selected by the winners were of such quality as would be recommended for purebred herds.

A similar contest is being conducted on a State basis this year. The first-prize winner from Missouri will compete against the first-prize winner from Kansas for the interstate championship. Awards are to be based: 40 per cent on average daily gain, 25 per cent on finish and quality, 20 per cent on economy of gain, and 15 per cent on herd management.

Twenty-eight entries from 18 counties have been made in the 1929 contest.

It is apparent that the contest is doing a great deal to call attention to the advantages of the cow-and-calf system of beef production as demonstrated in the beef-herd project. There is a gradual increase in the number of beef cows on Missouri farms. Cows are taking the place of steers on several farms.

While there is an increase in beef cows on Missouri farms, the Missouri College of Agriculture is discouraging any increase that will put more cows on a farm than can be maintained on available roughage and grass.

To give an idea of how the interest and enrollment in the Oklahoma 4-H livestock clubs have increased during the past five years, the following table is given showing the enrollment by years:

Year	Pig club	Baby beef club	Sheep club	Total number of projects
1924	2,185	427	172	2,784
1925	2,294	469	181	2,944
1926	2,438	691	255	3,384
1927	3,052	1,007	212	4,271
1928	4,179	1,048	189	5,416

— From Oklahoma Animal Husbandry Report - 1928

THE TEXAS PORK-PRODUCTION CONTEST

by

E. R. Eudaly, Texas Extension Service

- - -

The Texas Extension Service conducted ton-litter contests during the years 1923 to 1928, inclusive. We started out on the basis of giving a gold medal to all contestants who made their litter of pigs weigh one ton in 180 days. This soon proved too easy, and furthermore, the contestants grew their hogs too large in 180 days to bring the top price on the market. In 1926, we reduced the time to 150 days thinking that the contestants would finish the contest with pigs weighing about 225 pounds. Again, we were mistaken. Some of them made their pigs weigh an average of 300 pounds.

For 1929 we changed the contest to what we term a "pork-production contest." In this contest we give a gold medal to every contestant who makes his pigs average as much as 225 pounds in 150 days and we give the prize money to the contestant that makes his pigs average 225 pounds in the least number of days. In other words the contestant has finished the contest as soon as his pigs average 225 pounds. By this means all contestants finish the contest with their hogs weighing the desired market weight.

The rules of the contest and the prizes are as follows:

I. Any farmer, 4-H club member, or vocational student in Texas is eligible.

II. Pigs may be purebred, grades, or scrubs.

III. Litters must be farrowed between January 15, 1929, and June 15, 1929, both dates inclusive.

IV. Farmers must enter all litters farrowed within the above dates.

V. Entries must be made by March 15, or within 30 days after farrowing of first litter. All entries must be made through E.R. Eudaly, Extension Swine Specialist, or the local judge.

VI. Nomination cards may be secured from the county agents or The Progressive Farmer, and when filled out should be mailed to E. R. Eudaly, College Station, Texas.

VII. Pigs raised on nurse sow or hand-fed are not eligible.

VIII. Contestants are required to keep complete feed records on both sows and litters.

IX. Contestants will be divided into three groups according to number of sows owned, the groups to be as follows:

1. Those owning one sow
2. Those owning two to five sows (inclusive)
3. Those owning six or more sows

X. Requirements to qualify for a medal shall be as follows:

Group 1-(to consist of at least 7 pigs) must average 225 pounds at 150 days
Group 2-must average 225 pounds at 155 days
Group 3-must average 225 pounds at 160 days.

The time requirement is based on the average for all litters.

XI. All litters must be weighed every ten days after the pigs are 110 days old. Final weight (or weights) must be certified to and witnessed.

XII. When a litter averages more than 225 pounds on final weighing, time reduction shall be made, based on the average daily gain of the last 10-day weighing period.

XIII. If pigs average between 220 and 225 pounds on the final weighing, time shall be added, based on the average daily gain of the last 10-day period.

XIV. Cash awards shall be as follows:

Group 1-
Contestants whose litter averages 225 pounds in least number of days ..... $ 50
Second prize 30
Third prize 20

Group 2-
Contestant whose litters average 225 pounds in least number of days (average of all litters) ... $ 75
Second prize 50

Group 3-
Contestant whose litters average 225 pounds in least number of days (average for all litters) .. $ 75

At this writing the contest has not closed, hence we can not give the results. If the contestants do as well this year as they did last year, the winner will make his pigs average 225 pounds in 135 days.

SOMETHING ON THE HORSE

The horse is an automotive animal, consisting of a body mounted on four-brake legs. It has three speeds forward; namely: the walk, the trot and the gallop. The intermediate gear is not so popular owing to the vibration. The horse may also go into reverse or stand still in neutral.

The engine of the horse is in the center of the body and the driver sits on the hood. In the rear of the driver is room for a rumble seat, though this is not featured in the more recent models. The horse has a tail but no tail-light, thus distinguishing it from a motor car, which has a tail-light but no tail.

It is always well before starting out on your horse to see that he has been fueled and has sufficient water in his radiator. There is no need to worry about oil, as he supplies his own lubrication. Tire trouble, when it occurs, usually results from defects in the inner tubing. When the shoes are at fault, the cause is due to dropping nails rather than picking them up.

The driver sits with his feet, respectively, on the right and left running boards and clutches the steering gear firmly in his hands. To start the horse he exerts a firm pressure with his right heel against the body of the horse in the neighborhood of the differential. He then shifts gradually from low to intermediate and to high as the horse picks up speed. If this is done too hurriedly, the horse may stall, automatically shifting into neutral. The driver must be on his guard against this, as the ordinary horse is not equipped with a windshield and the driver may find himself catapulted over the headlights.

Horses may be had in numerous styles to fit every purse and to serve widely varied purposes, with bodies of various attractive tones. Among others is the racing horse, sometimes seen in a brilliant finish. But perhaps the best feature of the horse is that one never thinks of parking him on less than an acre or two of land.

-- Baltimore Sun.

North Dakota

D. C. McLeod has resigned his position as assistant animal husbandry specialist to accept employment with the agricultural department of the Soo Railroad.

Texas

E. R. Eudaly, swine specialist, resigned on July 1st and has become a member of the Texas Farm Products Company at Waco. E. M. Regenbrecht, former county agricultural agent in Fall County, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Eudaly on the extension staff.

New Mexico

A. K. Mackey, professor of sheep and goat husbandry at the A. & M. College of Texas, devoted a period of two weeks during August to sheep and goat extension work in New Mexico in cooperation with Dr. W. L. Black, the State livestock specialist.

Virginia

Our annual ram sale held at Marion on July 18 was quite successful. Forty-nine Hampshire rams sold for an average price of $45.42, seven Shropshires brought $46.59 each, and one Dorset, $65.00. These yearly events have a twofold purpose, namely, to provide an outlet for surplus rams produced by our local breeders and to supply our market lamb producers with rams designed to meet their needs at a reasonable price. -- L. I. Case.

Indiana

The LaCrosse Horse Association in LaPorte County, through the leadership of the president, J. T. Bell, has 18 colts weighed into the Gold Medal Colt Club. It is the plan of the organization to have a horse show one year from this fall which will feature colts which have gained the necessary 650 pounds to entitle them to show in the Gold Medal Colt Class. The club is being used to create a greater interest in the proper care and feeding of horses and especially toward the feeding of colts for the making of good draft animals. Mr.

Bell has offered $150 for the prize-winning colt in the show. In addition to this, medals from the Indiana Livestock Breeders Association and cash prizes will be given from local funds.

Two days were spent inspecting the colts entered last fall in the Gold Medal Colt Club of Hamilton County, of which 25 will be shown at the county show. Six of these were selected to represent Hamilton County at the State Fair. Enrollment cards for 63 colts for the year 1929-1930 have been taken, of which at least 50 will be officially entered in the Hamilton County Gold Medal Colt Club for 1929-1930. -- P. T. Brown.

Iowa

Three Iowa Sheepmen are recognized as "June First Market Lamb Growers" by making their 100 per cent lamb crops average 65 pounds in weight by June 1st. in the June 1st Market Lamb Growers Club. G. W. Sefriet of Ringgold County, J. C. Parizek of Tama County, and A. E. Woodruffe of Lee County were the three successful entries. F. R. Mitchell received honorable mention.

Mr. Sefriet has a flock of 20 Shropshire ewes from which he raised 24 lambs. These lambs averaged 68-1/3 pounds in weight on June 1st and brought $14.75 per cwt. Mr. Sefriet started his lambs on a feed of corn, oats, and alfalfa after which they were turned on pasture with the ewes.

Mr. Parizek raised, from 20 grade Shropshire ewes, 21 lambs, which averaged 68 pounds on June 1st. These lambs were born from February 1 to 15th, and were creep-fed bran, and whole oats. Later the bran was omitted and shelled corn added to the ration.

Mr. Woodruffe had 22 grade Shropshire lambs dropped about February 25th. These lambs were creep-fed until May 15th on a ration of ground ear corn, wheat bran and oil meal.

Mr. Mitchell raised 65 lambs from his 58 grade Oxford ewes. These lambs were not dropped until March 10th, and attained an average weight of 59.7 pounds by June 1st. They were sold for $15.50 per cwt. These lambs were creep-fed a ration of shelled corn, oats, silage and oil meal. -- C. W. McDonald.

I add this also, that natural ability without education has oftener raised man to glory and virtue, than education without natural ability. -- Cicero.

CULLING SHEEP ON THE BASIS OF FLEECE WEIGHTS

by

J. R. Neale, Wyoming Extension Service

- - -

Work in Wyoming during the past four years has demonstrated that culling sheep by weighing their fleeces is a sure but, not in all cases, a practical method of culling. Chute-culling during the late fall or winter is proving to be a more practical method however. This is due to the extra time and expense involved in weighing individual fleeces. Three men will spend from four to six days in weighing fleeces and marking sheep in a band of 2,500 ewes whereas one man who understands his business will cull 2,500 head in half a day if they are put through the chute for him.

Culling by fleece-weighing was adopted as a project by the Wyoming Extension Service in the spring of 1926. The goal set at that time was to improve the average weight of all fleeces in any cooperator's clip by at least two pounds in five years' time. More specifically, the aim was to increase the clip at the rate of 1/2 pound per head each year by discarding low shearers. According to the project, all fleeces were to be weighed at shearing time. Ewes shearing less than a certain standard were to be marked and discarded. Ewe lambs to be used for replacements were to be culled through the chute in the fall, only the better ones being retained. All rams used were to meet with the approval of representatives of the Wyoming Extension Service.

In this culling by fleece-weighing, ewes are not discarded because they are dry unless there is evidence that they are "chronic drys." As a matter of fact, we have found no correlation between fleece weight and the percentage of lambs. The better ewes have good fleeces as well as good lambs.

In some bands we have been able to check "light" shearers and "extra heavy" shearers for two successive years. Our figures indicate that ewes that shear light this year will shear light next year and that the extra heavy shearers this year will shear extra heavy fleeces next year, sick or old ewes being an exception to this rule. Our experience shows that those bands in which culling work is carried on improve in appearance as to uniformity, grade of wool, etc., as time goes on. The greatest improvement occurs in the first year's culling work. A cut of at least 7 to 10 per cent must be made each

year if the expected improvement is to be made.

Culling the ewes without improving the quality of the bucks used, however, is not a satisfactory or permanent means of improving fleece weights. After the work of the first year or two, our cooperators in this project have, in all cases, sold themselves on the necessity of using better bucks.

Below is a record of the work done with one of our cooperators whose ranch is above Greybull, Wyoming. The data from this cooperator are similar to those from other cooperators in the State. It will be noted that the results of the shearing of 1928 and 1929 show a drop of a pound in the average fleece weight. This held true with all our cooperators this spring. The winter of 1928 and 1929 was extremely long and hard. Clips throughout the State run on an average of one to two pounds lighter than normal, regardless of how well sheep have been fed during the winter. This cooperator has been using Corriedale bucks on the band of high-shearing ewes, and Hampshire bucks on the cut-back of lighter shearers. All ewe lambs saved to build up the flocks through replacement came from the high-shearing band.

Itemized Report of Sheep-Improvement Demonstrations
at C.F. Lampman & Sons Ranch, Greybull, Wyoming

Item	1927	1928	1929
Shearing dates	May 20-25 incl.	May 14-17 incl.	May 13-15 incl.
Hand shearing	11 men	9 and 10 men	13 men
Shearing price	15¢	15-1/2¢	15¢
Total sheep shorn .	2,499	2,499 - bucks	2,498 - bucks
Total wool weight, lbs.	24,562.4	26,163.5	23,960.9
Shrink, per cent ..	52	59	54
Weight wool, clean basis	11789.76	10.727	11022.1
Ave. fleece weight (grease)	9.62	10.47	9.67
Sale price per lb..	30¢	34¢	Consigned
Grade	3/8	3/8	3/8
No. ewes shorn	2,445	2,465	2,463
Culling standard			
Extra heavy	10.5 lbs and over,	11.5 lbs.and over,	12 lbs.and over
Heavy	over .65 under 10,	over 7.5 under 11.5	over 8 under 12.
Light	under 6.5	under 7.5	under 8
Extra heavy	944	833	248
Heavy	1,319	1,457	1,883
Light	182	175	332
Percentage of extra heavy fleeces	36.6	33.8	10.2
Percentage of heavy fleeces	53.9	59.1	76.4

Item	1927	1928	1929
Percentage of light fleeces	7.4	7.1	13.4
Percentage of total wool from extras	---*	41.5	13.
Percentage total wool from heavies	---*	54.8	77.
Percentage total wool from lights	----*	4.7	10.
Ave. wt. all ewe fleeces, lbs. ..	9.81	10.49	9.57
Ave. wt. all above standard	10.13	10.76	9.99
Ave. wt. all below standard	5.99	6.98	7.1

* No data

Comparison of bands, 1929	Band 1	Band 2	Total or ave.
Total number of ewes	1,326	1,137	2,463
Number of fleeces under 8 lbs.....	217	115	332
Number fleeces 8 to 12 lbs.....	1,038	845	1,883
Number fleeces over 12 lbs.....	71	177	248
Total weight of wool, lbs.....	12,227.1	11,373.3	23,600.4
Total weight of lights, lbs.....	1,547	816	2,363
Total weight of heavies, lbs.....	9,784.4	8,424.3	18,208.7
Total weight of extras, lbs.....	895.7	2,150.9	3,046.6
Percentage of lights	16.3	10.1	13.4
Percentage of heavies	78.2	74.3	76.4
Percentage of extras	5.3	15.5	10.2
Percentage of wool from lights	12.6	7.1	10.
Percentage of wool from heavies	80.	74.07	77.
Percentage of wool from extras	7.3	18.9	13.
Average wt. all fleeces in band, lbs...	9.22	10.02	9.57
Average wt. light fleeces in band, lbs..	7.1	7.1	7.1
Average wt. heavy fleeces in band, lbs..	9.42	9.98	9.66
Average wt. extra fleeces in band, lbs.	12.6	12.15	12.28
Average wt. 35 buck fleeces, lbs.			10.3
Average wt. 23 black-face buck fleeces, lbs.			6.25
Average wt. 12 Corriedale buck fleeces, lbs.			18.21

"Of all these the most important was that of beef -- For 'ter raise a mess of beef is a real man's job."

NOTES ON HORSE WORK FROM 1928 ANNUAL REPORTS

Washington

Fourteen pulling contests were held at ten fairs. Thirty-seven light and 37 heavy teams participated. The record pull for light teams was 2,750 pounds, the same as last year. The record for heavy teams was 3,050 pounds, which is 150 pounds higher than last year. The average pull for light teams was 2,480 pounds and for heavy teams 2,850 pounds, which are 500 pounds and 300 pounds, respectively, higher than for 1927. It is estimated that 30,000 people witnessed these contests.

Illinois

Horse and mule pulling contests were started in 1926 and have been continued as county fair features of our work. The aim is to hold only about a dozen contests a year in selected counties to sustain interest in good work animals, well-fitted harness and good driving, and to impress people with the immense reserve power which horses possess for use in emergencies. During 1928 the university dynamometer was used in 12 pulling contests. One of these including only teams of the university was staged during Farmers' Week. The other eleven were held at county fairs. The number of teams entered in the contests varied from 6 to 19. The total number of teams participating was 144, or an average of 12 per contest. It was estimated that a total of 42,400 people watched the demonstrations.

Summary of Pulling Contests for Three Years

Year	No. of Contests	Number of teams: Under 3,000 lbs.	Number of teams: 3,000 lbs. & over	Number of teams: Total	Greatest weight pulled 27½ ft.: Light class lbs.	Greatest weight pulled 27½ ft.: Heavy class lbs.	Estimated attendance
1926	9	82	39	121	2475	2700	35,200
1927	13	85	63	148	2450	3000	45,000
1928	12	86	58	144	2550	2700	42,400
Total	34	253	160	413			122,600
	Maximum				2550	3000	

An exhibit of big-team hitches was carried with the dynamometer. This included enlarged photographs and diagrams of four to eight-horse hitches, sample tie chains, buck ropes, eveners and a supply of Illinois Circular 324, "Big Teams on Illinois Farms."

New York

Eight horse pulling contests, with a total of 41 entrants in the light class and 26 in the heavy class, were conducted during the year at fairs. The total estimated attendance at these demonstrations was 60,100. As in previous years these events attracted much interest. The educational features are becoming more evident and farmers are learning the importance of proper training, proper handling, and soundness to the extent that better teams were entered in the contests this year than in any previous season.

Multiple hitch work was started for the first time in the State this year. Five demonstrations were held during May and June attracting an average of 20 farmers each. The results obtained warrant further work of this kind.

Michigan

The multiple hitch was rather extensively demonstrated in 1928. Thirty-six hitch demonstrations showing the 4-5-6 and 8 horse hitches were held in 20 Michigan counties. Seven hundred and one farmers, an average of nearly 20 attended these demonstrations.

The 4-5 and 6 horse hitch has been adopted and put into practice by a number of Michigan farmers. Two hundred and twenty farmers turned in their names at the earlier demonstrations. A questionnaire was sent to these men. Ninety-five replied and 60 of them were using the hitch, 10 planned to use it the coming year, and 25 replied that they had not used the hitch, the chief reason being that they had too few horses. Very favorable reports have been sent in to this office by many men who are now operating this hitch. This project will be continued in a number of the counties that have requested the work but will not be carried on so extensively as in 1928.

The dynamometer work was handled through the animal husbandry extension specialists in 1928. One hundred and forty-six teams competed in 15 contests conducted in connection with 15 fairs in lower Michigan. Ninety of the teams competed in the light-weight division and 56 in the heavy-weight division. The State records, both in the light-weight and heavy-weight divisions were broken this year.

While the dynamometer work is spectacular it has aroused interest in good draft horses and has been a means of contact with men interested in and raising horses. These results have been valuable in successfully putting into operation the colt-development contest. It is estimated that 38,500 people witnessed the dynamometer contests.

MARKETING THE IOWA WOOL CLIP

by

C. W. McDonald, Iowa Extension Service

The Animal Husbandry Extension Service and the Iowa Sheep and Wool Growers' Association cooperated this year for the first time in marketing the Iowa cool clip. Approximately 600,00 pounds of wool were handled by county pools. Other counties rejected bids and consigned approximately 300,000 pounds to the National Wool Exchange.

The growers seem to like this plan of handling the wool for several reasons. In the first place they agree that the wool should be sold on its merits rather than lumped off under the old country-buyer method. Growers like to be present to see it graded, appreciating the educational value of this phase of the plan. They realize that the successful pool must have some other place to put its wool in case the buyers should for any reason fail to bid or to bid up to the market. Above all the grower likes this plan because he sells his own wool and received a check for it the day he brings it to town.

During April and May the extension specialist organized county sheep and wool growers' associations which were to form the unit upon which the marketing plan was based. These county associations, after electing officers, directors and a wool-marketing committee of five men, sent a letter to every wool grower in the county telling him briefly of the plan adopted. A return post card was enclosed upon which he was asked to state whether or not he would support such a plan and the approximate number of pounds of wool that he would have to market. The county committee also gave wide publicity to the plan through the daily press.

The dates for the various county pools were usually set by the extension specialist in order that a circuit of pools could be arranged which might attract the larger buyers and at the same time make it possible for a representative of the Extension Service or of the Iowa Sheep and Wool Growers' Association to be present at each sale.

About 10 days prior to each county-poolsale date the county committee would write to a list of buyers, previously furnished by the Extension Service, and ask them to place a bid on the county wool pool. They would advise the buyer approximately how many pounds of wool they would have and state as nearly as possible the percentage of the various grades of wool. (The county committee reserved the

right to reject any or all bids.). The buyer was asked to submit a bid according to the following grouping of grades. (1) Medium wools, including 3/8, 1/4, and low 1/4 (56's, 48's, 50's, and 46's); (2) medium rejects, including black, burry and seedy, dead, braid; and (3) fine wools, including heavy half and fine. With the exception of two county pools, combing and clothing wools were thrown together. The buyer was also asked to state whether he would buy the wool sacks from the grower or furnish them. He was told, in the invitation to bid, that the wool was to be sorted according to the foregoing groups under the supervision of the extension sheep specialist. His bid was to be in the hands of the wool-marketing commitee by a stipulated date usually three days prior to the date on which the wool was to be brought in by the growers.

The bids are opened at the time specified in the invitation to the buyers and if a satisfactory bid is received, the successful bidder is notified immediately by 'phone. If he represents a company that has not previously been examined for reliability and business integrity, further examination is made by the local banker and a deposit is required to bind the sale. At the time the successful bidder is notified, arrangements are made to have him be present early on the first morning of the pool, and also to have him deposit a draft in the local bank, against which he will draw in paying each grower for his wool as soon as it is graded and weighed.

In case a satisfactory bid is not received the committee has the power to reject all bids and then consign its wool to the National Wool Exchange at Boston, the selling agency of the Iowa Sheep and Wool Growers' Association. Each grower has the privilege of securing an advance of 20 to 25 cents per pound on wool consigned in this manner by attaching a sight draft to the bill of lading and presenting it to his local bank.

During the period of three days from the time the bids are opened until the time the wool is to be brought in by the growers, the committee notified each grower by letter that the pool has been sold, and gives him the price bid for each sort or group of grades. The grower then knows before he leaves home just what his wool is going to bring and if he does not like the price he need not deliver his wool. In case the bids are rejected he is notified to that effect and told when the car will be loaded for consignment to the National Wool Exchange.

Grading the Wool

During the first morning of the pool the buyer and the representative of the Extension Service are present to receive and grade the wool. As each grower arrives with his wool, the sacks are ripped open and each fleece thrown upon the grading table where it is graded into medium, fine, and rejects. In some counties when a preponderance of

fine wool is found, we grade the fine according to length. The wool is thrown into crates provided by the local committee and when the consignment is all graded each basket is weighed and a checking committee figures the amount due the grower. A charge of 1/2 cent per pound for support of the State Sheep and Wool Growers' Association and a charge of 1/8 to 1/4 cent per pound to defray local expenses of the pool are deducted from the gross sales and the buyer then issues the grower a check for the balance. At the conclusion of the pool the buyer writes a check to the secretary-treasurer of the county association for the total amount of the State and county assessment which has previously been deducted from each grower's check.

A MICHIGAN RAM TRUCK

The cooperation of the Michigan Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association was again secured to assist in running a truck load of rams through northern Michigan to be used at the breeding series of meetings. The association hired a truck and charged an average of $7.50 more for the rams than was paid to the breeder in the southern part of the State, to defray the cost of operating the truck. Most of the rams were of the Oxford, Shropshire and Hampshire breeds, while there was one Rambouillet, one Blacktop and one Lincoln delivered on the trip.

The truck was on the road 15 days and made a total of about 1,500 miles being present at 22 meetings where there was an average attendance of about 20 persons. Seventy-one rams and seven registered ewes were placed either by being sold or delivered on order at these meetings.

It is believed that the influence of these meetings is much greater than shown by the number of rams delivered. At each meeting the proper type of market lambs was demonstrated usually from the lambs produced on the farm where the meeting was held. The selection of the right kind of ewe lambs to replenish the flock and culling the ewe flock with emphasis on culling on the basis of production, sound mouth and sound udders were also discussed. The rams on the truck were then used to show the different breed types and to show the desirable and undesirable characteristics to watch out for in selecting a ram. From one-third to one-half of these rams went to men who had been using grade rams previously. It is believed that a great many men who were present at the meetings would go back home and even if they continued to use a grade ram they would be inclined to select a better type of ram than they had been using before.

-- From Michigan Animal Husbandry Report - 1928.

COLORADO SHEEP-CULLING DEMONSTRATIONS

The sheep-culling demonstrations are conducted by the livestock specialist, four county extension agents and the farm management demonstrator cooperating. The livestock specialist assisted in the culling of three of the five bands of sheep involved, including approximately 4,130 head. However, the specialist's efforts were centered on the Olin Perdew flock, which is a typical range band of 2,600 head. Mr. Perdew has agreed to cooperate with us for a period of five years, selling the culled ewes each year.

Objects:

1. To demonstrate a practical method of improving a flock by culling at shearing time.

2. To cull on the basis of fleece weight, quality of fleece, conformation and type of ewe.

3. To demonstrate improved flock-management systems.

4. To continue for five years and keep records on progress made.

Status and Results:

This demonstration was started by the former livestock specialist, B. W. Fairbanks, in 1926. He continued it through 1927 and the present specialist carried it on for 1928. Mr. Perdew has been a splendid cooperator and the demonstration will continue for two more years. This year 2,609 head of sheep were included in the band culled. A sheepmen's day was held while the demonstration was in progress.

Method of Procedure:

The sheep were culled in an alley leading to the sweat pens. Each sheep was caught and its wool and conformation examined carefully, and all sheep "mouthed." The sheep were graded into three classes and designated with the following chalk marks over the nose:

1 Mark--"Special" ewes, or those that carried a heavy fleece, had strong conformation and had good mouths. There were 910 of these ewes, their average fleece weighing between 10.76 pounds. After being shorn they were turned into the "counting out" corral. Here the "specials" were given a brand with red paint - one mark over the shoulder. Mr. Perdew will use his best rams with this band and save the ewe lambs from them to replenish the flock.

2 Marks--"Ordinary" ewes, or those that had good fleeces, good

conformation and good mouths but not quite up to the "specials." There were 1,355 of these ewes with an average fleece weight of 9.86 pounds. After being shorn and turned into the "counting out" corral the "ordinary" ewes were given a red paint brand over the side. This class of ewes will remain in the band to produce market lambs.

3 Marks--"Broken mouth" ewes that have been good but age has overtaken them. There were 83 of these ewes, but their average fleece weight was 7.74 pounds. In the corral they were given a circle band, and sold from the flock in the fall.

4 Marks-- "Pewees" and "Lungers," poor-conformation ewes, some of them young but not the type from which to improve a band of sheep. There were 223 of these ewes. In the corral they were given a circle brand and sold from the flock this fall.

County extension agent T. G. Stewart and Thomas H. Summers, farm management specialist, weighed the fleeces, recorded the weights, and checked the branding of ewes by grade.

Summary

Olin Perdew Flock, 1928

Classes	Number of fleeces	Total wt. pounds	Average pounds
Specials			
Ewes	712	7,593.5	10.66
Yearlings	198	2,162.5	10.92
Ordinary ewes			
Ewes	922	9,608	10.42
Yearlings	433	4,056.5	9.36
Broken mouths	83	643	7.74
"Lungers" and "pewees"			
Ewes	170	1,239.5	7.29
Yearlings	53	386	7.28
Wethers	17	153.5	9.03
Blacks	21	176	8.38
Flock totals	2,609	26,018.5	9.97

Summary, Three Years' Culling Perdew Flock

Year	Number of fleeces	Total wts., pounds	Average pounds
1926	2,514	21,992	8.75
1927	2,444	24,318.5	9.90
1928	2,609	26,018.5	9.97

The average of the fleece weights does not tell the whole story. The Perdew flock each year has shown more uniformity and a better grade of wool. The way in which Mr. Perdew handles the flock before shearing and his method of handling the wool at shearing time are conducive to the production of a high-quality of wool. It is commanding a premium on the market. Furthermore, the flock is producing a more uniform crop of lambs. This year, separating the "specials" from which to save the ewe lambs is another step forward. At the end of five years it is expected that this demonstration will show an excellent example of a practical way to improve a band of range sheep.

-- From Colorado Animal Husbandry Report - 1928.

MEATS WORK IN OHIO

During the past year, 12 demonstrations were held in seven counties showing principally cuts and quality of beef although in some instances carcasses from other classes of animals received attention. At each of these demonstrations a side or more of beef was cut to show most of the retail cuts. This served to familiarize the consumer with some of the less demanded cuts, the use of which would help to reduce the meat budget. Cuts showing the different grades of beef have also been used to show the factors which influence quality. An exhibit of beef was made at the State Fair and also in connection with the Dayton Fat Cattle Show. Placards and posters helped to tell the story.

The county agent and in some instances the home demonstration agent arranged for the local meetings and demonstrations, secured the meat to be used and presented the publicity. In some counties with home demonstration agents, these demonstrations were followed by a series of demonstrations on meat preparation.

It is difficult to measure immediate results of work of this kind but a steady demand for more work of it leads us to believe that it has a place in the program.

-- From Ohio Animal Husbandry Report - 1928.

THE ARKANSAS STATE TON-LITTER CONTEST -1930

by

M. W. Muldrow, Arkansas Extension Service

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Ton-litter contests in Arkansas, based on scores made where 50 per cent was allowed for average weight per pig, 25 per cent for cost per hundred pounds gain, and 25 per cent for profit, have proved valuable in teaching lessons in swine production. Plans are under way now to use the ton-litter work in 1930 to spread information to swine growers on the correct use of cottonseed meal. With the exception of this feature, rules governing the contest are the same as usual.

The following rules will govern the contest:

1. The object of the Arkansas Ton-Litter Contest for 1930 will be, in addition to aims of more economical production as stressed during the past four years, to stress further the importance of a protein supplement and particularly the use of COTTONSEED MEAL as such.

2. Any hog grower in the State may enter the contest by nominating a sow. There is no entry charge. Purebred or grades may be used. June 15 is latest date of farrow which will be accepted.

3. The county agent or other representative of the College of Agriculture shall in the beginning certify to the date of birth and the number of pigs per litter and again at the end of a 165 to 180 day period he shall certify to and weigh the litter.

4. Pasture shall be available for the pigs during the entire feeding period. A protein supplement containing COTTONSEED MEAL shall be used. The amounts of cottonseed meal to be used are indicated by attached page of instructions.

5. The minimum requirement for weight shall be 1,700 pounds at 165 days and 2,000 pounds at 180 days (a ton in six months). In case a record is closed on the 165th day or any day up to the 180th day, 20 pounds per day for every day under 180 days may be added to the actual weight of litter in question. Any grower who obtains these standard weights and submits record of feeds fed with a statement of pasture used will automatically become a member of the Arkansas Ton-Litter Club and will be awarded the Arkansas ton-litter watch fob.

6. Awards shall be based on scores according to the following:

50 per cent for average weight per pig
25 per cent for cost per hundredweight
25 per cent for profit

(a) The total weight per litter at 180 days of age divided by the number of pigs per litter shall be the average weight per pig. Litters less than 180 days of age down to 165 days of age may compete, provided they weigh 1,700 pounds. For every day under 180 days, 20 pounds may be added to the weight of the litter to determine their total weight at 180 days.

(b) Cost per hundredweight shall be determined by total cost of production divided by the hundreds of pounds in each litter. Total cost of production shall be determined by a $25 charge on sow and litter to weaning age plus the cost of feeds fed from eight weeks to 180 days of age, all feeds to be figured at a standard price for all litters. Litters under 180 days of age shall have additional weights figured at a cost of $7.50 per hundredweight.

(c) The total weight of each litter shall be multiplied by a standard price per hundredweight for all litters and this sum minus the total cost of production shall represent the profit.

7. The Arkansas Cottonseed Crushers' Association is offering to the ten highest scoring litters $450.00 in ten cash prizes as follows:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
$75	$65	$55	$50	$45	$40	$35	$30	$25	$20

Cottonseed Meal Mixtures as Protein Supplements

1. For the self-feeder:

A mixture of equal parts of cottonseed meal and tankage where corn is being used in a self-feeder, and pasture is available.

2. Any one of the following mixtures with green pasture:

	No. 1 Lbs.	No. 2 Lbs.	No. 3 Lbs.
Corn	88	81	82
Wheat (gray) shorts	0	10	9
Cottonseed meal	9	6	9
Tankage	3	3	0
Limestone, air-slaked lime, bone meal, or wood ashes	1	1	1½
Salt	½	½	½

Rations can be fed dry or in the form of slop.

Records as follows must be submitted to the Agricultural Extension Service before an entry will be considered for prizes:

1. Complete record of all amounts of feed fed from eight weeks of age to an age of 165 to 180 days.
2. Statement of kind and amount of pasture used.
3. Breed.
4. Number of pigs.
5. Average weight per pig at close.

SWINE SANITATION IN ILLINOIS

Swine sanitation was continued as a minor project. A few special county meetings, farm demonstrations and county tours were devoted especially to boosting the McLean County swine-sanitation system of raising pigs free from worms. This system was also promoted incidentally at all other swine meetings.

Data from 106 farm cost account records in McLean and Woodford Counties for 1924, 1925 and 1926, have been computed showing definite financial advantages for this plan. The sanitation system saved an average of $155 annually in feed and labor per farm as compared with old methods. It saved 15 per cent of the feed, thus adding 2 pounds of pork to the amount produced from each bushel of corn. Sanitation cut $1.04 per cwt. from the cost of producing pork on these farms. Part of this saving was due to a reduction of 25 per cent in the number of brood sows needed to raise a carload of hogs.

Facts were secured from farmers in regard to methods of management when using this system. There is an increasing tendency to scatter little hog houses out in the clean pasture and turn the clean sows in to help themselves to the accommodations. They are not closely confined, and they are all fed together. Results are surprisingly good.

County agents were enlisted to make a careful survey of the extent to which the sanitation system is now used in Illinois. Seventy-seven representative counties reported an average of 196 swine sanitation farmers per county. This means probably 20,000 farmers in the whole State who are using this plan.

-- From Illinois Animal Husbandry Report - 1928.

CONTACTS

From time to time in this publication and elsewhere attention has been called to the form of language which has come to be known as "extensionese." Extensionese is a jargon like beggars' slang, understood by those who speak it, but not understood by those familiar with the real meanings of words as they are ordinarily understood.

In an issue of "News Views," attention has been called not only to the faults of extensionese, but also to the fact that "news of results, presented without 'splendid' adjectives, is gladly printed anywhere. But one should be sure that the record is one of real results. The boast that 2,292 demonstrations were attended by 42,000 people in 196 townships never made two potatoes grow where only one grew before, or reduced rhyzoctonia by as much as a single spore."

Now comes Russell Lord, editor of the Ohio "Extension Service News"; and although a Cornelian, he takes Cornell as a horrible example in the following:

> "Omitting all detail, we may say in summary that, through this extension organization, representatives of Cornell University made face-to-face contacts with 1,374,249 persons in the last year. In regularly organized extension schools, 1,443, such contacts were made. - From an Official Report."

"Behold! A sonnet is a Piece of Work Projected, Planned,
Directed, Supervised
From Concept to Objective; Organized
In Scope and Form and Function.
(Never shirk,
O Muse, the Follow-up! Aid me to seize
Each Step and Aim and Goal! Cooperate,
Commune, Confer, Concur, Coordinate!
A little Splendid Spirit, if you please!)

Answers by Muse with ribald snickers; "I
Have just been reading the report above.
Sweet cats and dogs! Ah me!
Great land o' love!
It makes me snort and giggle, sniff and sigh,
How educators can take words and twist 'em...
Face-to-face contacts! Gee! They must 'ave kissed 'em!"

-- From Extension Service News, Ithaca, N. Y.

MARKET LAMB IMPROVEMENT IN VIRGINIA

by

L. I. Case, Virginia Extension Service

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The sheep population in Virginia has increased gradually from 338,000 in 1924 to 469,000 in 1929. This increase has been due to high prices for market lambs and wool. Not only have the number of sheep been on the increase but the quality has improved as well. Up to and including 1924, Virginia lambs had a very poor reputation on our central markets. Market quotations generally mentioned loads of Kentucky, Tennessee or some other State lambs topping the market. The management of the Jersey City Stock Yards, as well as packers and commission men, were very much concerned and showed a willingness to assist financially in an attempt to improve Virginia market lambs. At a meeting of producers, packers, commission men and extension workers, members of the lamb improvement committee from the Jersey City Stock Yards made the statement that Virginia lambs were the poorest lambs that they received from any State. When asked the reasons for the high percentage of our cull lambs they mentioned three, namely; poor breeding, the small percentage of lambs which are docked and castrated, and the prevalence of stomach-worm infestation. These three factors were evident and no doubt other causes might have been cited such as poor feeding and improper care and management.

In order to encourage a more general use of good-type purebred rams, the Jersey City market people financed a ram sale which was held at Staunton in 1924. The sale was successful and since that time nine sales have been held. The majority of the rams were bred in Virginia and when the State breeders could not supply the number needed, rams were imported from other States. The increased demand for purebred rams and the general improvement of prices, at least partially due to successful sales, have encouraged new purebred breeders so that at this time there are practically enough registered rams bred in Virginia to supply the demand.

In addition to the purebred-sire work, much has been done toward improvement in other lines. The treatment of sheep for stomach worms and internal parasites is now quite generally practiced throughout the State and a large percentage of our lambs are being trimmed. Furthermore, feeding and management methods have been greatly improved. The fact that there has been a general improvement in quality is reflected in market quotations for the past two years. When reporting the top sales of lambs the Bureau of Agricultural Economics usually states the origin of the top loads. In a large percentage of cases these top loads are now from Virginia.

In 1928, acting upon a suggestion from Mr. D. A. Spencer of the Bureau of Animal Industry, several flock records were kept. These records brought out some interesting facts regarding the correlation of certain management practices and profits due to the percentage of lamb crop, wool clip, percentage of top lambs, etc. This year this work has been enlarged upon through farm-flock demonstrations. A record book has been prepared and copies of it are in use by the demonstrators. The plan is for the county agent to have at least one demonstration flock in each community in his county with more if he chooses. These flocks are to be used as models for the purpose of pointing out certain improved practices of feeding and management.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

The American Society of Animal Production will hold its regular annual meeting at Chicago, November 29 to December 1, just prior to the International Live Stock Exposition. An extension section devoted primarily to the problems of extension animal husbandmen will be included in the program. Members of this group are urgently invited to attend. Wayland Rhoads will tell you later about the good things that are in store for you. Mark the dates on your calendar now.

WESTERN EXTENSION CONFERENCE

The annual conference of western extension workers will be held at State College, New Mexico, November 4 to 8, inclusive. Animal husbandry and human nutrition are the projects that will be given special attention this year. This will be the first opportunity since the Ft. Collins Conference in 1923 to review the work in the livestock field in the West. It is therefore essential that this group of workers be well represented. W. L. Elser, New Mexico extension director is chairman of the program committee and C. W. Creel, who occupies the same position in Nevada, is chairman of the livestock committee. Prepare now to attend and participate in this important conference.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

(Listing is made of recent publications devoted to subjects of more or less interest to animal husbandry extension workers. New bulletins of the United States Department of Agriculture are not included as copies of them are sent to members of this group as soon as available.)

"Type in Swine as Related to Rate and Economy of Gain," by Carroll and others - Illinois Experiment Station Bulletin No. 321.

"Type in Swine as Related to Quality of Pork," by Bull and Longwell - Illinois Experiment Station Bulletin No. 322.

"The Energy and Protein Requirements of Growing Swine and the Utilization of Feed Energy in Growth," by Mitchel and Hamilton - Illinois Experiment Station Bulletin No. 323.

"Financing the Western Cattleman," by Chas. I. Bray - Colorado Experiment Station Bulletin No. 338.

"Summer Rations for Fattening Steers," by Snapp and Knox - Illinois Experiment Station Bulletin No. 328.

"Horse Breaking" by Harry D. Linn - Iowa Horse and Mule Breeders' Association, Des Moines, Iowa.

"Proposed Plan Looking Toward Adjustments in the Agriculture of Illinois," by H. W. Mumford, Illinois Experiment Station Circular No. 340.

EXTENSION ANIMAL HUSBANDMEN !

(Tear this out and hand to your stenographer)

Please add the following address to our mailing list to receive copies of all printed and mimeographed publications relating to extension work in animal husbandry -

C. D. Lowe,
Extension Animal Husbandman,
U. S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.